AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing an endometriosis-related disease ~~which~~ , said method comprises:

_____(a)_____measuring an expression level of histamine releasing factor (HRF) polynucleotide in a biological ~~sampled~~ sample from a subject, wherein said biological sample is endometriotic tissue or menstrual blood; and

_____(b)_____comparing the HRF polynucleotide expression level with that in a normal biological sample, ~~and judging~~ wherein a subject exhibiting a significantly higher HRF polynucleotide expression level when compared with the normal biological sample is indicative of ~~as~~ a ~~patient~~ subject having the endometriosis-related disease or ~~as~~ a subject at ~~a high~~ risk thereof.

2. (Withdrawn) HRF oligonucleotide which hybridizes under a stringent condition with HRF polynucleotide.

3. (Withdrawn) An oligonucleotide prove, which is a labeled HRF oligonucleotide of claim 2.

4. (Withdrawn) A DNA microarray having as a target capture probe the HRF oligonucleotide of claim 2 or an HRF polynucleotide.

5. (Withdrawn) A primer set for PCR amplification of an HRF polynucleotide.

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6. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing an endometriosis-related disease, said method comprising ~~at least the following steps~~:

(a)   ~~a step for~~ preparing RNA from a biological sample of a subject, wherein said biological sample is endometriotic tissue or menstrual blood;

(b)   ~~a step for~~ subjecting the RNA prepared in ~~the~~ step (a) to an electrophoretic separation;

(c)   ~~a step for~~ hybridizing the RNA prepared in ~~the~~ step (b) with ~~the~~ a labeled HRF oligonucleotide probe ~~of claim 3~~ that hybridizes under a stringent condition with HRF polynucleotide;

(d)   ~~a step for~~ comparing the signal level of the labeled HRF oligonucleotide probe which ~~had been~~ hybridized with the RNA in ~~the~~ step (c) as an index of the HRF polynucleotide expression level with a result of a normal biological sample; and,

(e)   ~~a step for~~ using a significantly higher HRF polynucleotide expression level when compared with the normal biological sample as a index reflecting the degree of the endometriosis-related disease or ~~a~~ risk thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing an endometriosis-related disease, said method comprising ~~at least the following steps~~:

(a)   ~~a step for~~ preparing RNA from a biological sample of a subject, wherein said biological sample is endometriotic tissue or menstrual blood;

(b)   ~~a step for~~ preparing a labeled cDNA from the RNA prepared in ~~the~~ step (a);

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(c)   ~~a step for~~ contacting the labeled cDNA prepared in ~~the~~ step (b) with ~~the~~ a DNA microarray ~~of claim 4~~ having as a target capture probe an HRF polynucleotide or an HRF oligonucleotide that hybridizes under a stringent condition with HRF polynucleotide;

(d)   ~~a step for~~ comparing the signal level of the labeled cDNA which ~~had been~~ hybridized with ~~a~~ the capture probe of the DNA microarray in ~~the~~ step (c) as an index of the HRF polynucleotide expression level with a result of a normal biological sample; and,

(e)   ~~a step for~~ using a significantly higher HRF polynucleotide expression level when compared with the normal biological sample as a index reflecting the degree of the endometriosis-related disease or ~~a~~ risk thereof.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing an endometriosis-related disease, said method comprising ~~at least the following steps~~:

(a)   ~~a step for~~ preparing RNA from a biological sample of a subject, wherein said biological sample is endometriotic tissue or menstrual blood;

(b)   ~~a step for~~ synthesizing a cDNA using ~~the~~ a primer set ~~of claim 5~~ for PCR amplification of an HRF polynucleotide with the RNA prepared in ~~the~~ step (a) as a template;

(c)   ~~a step for~~ comparing the level of the cDNA prepared in ~~the~~ step (b) as a HRF polynucleotide expression index with a result of a normal biological sample; and,

(d)   ~~a step for~~ using a significantly higher HRF polynucleotide expression level when compared with the normal biological sample as a index reflecting the degree of the endometriosis-related disease or ~~a~~ risk thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing an endometriosis-related disease comprising 2 or more diagnostic methods selected from the diagnostic methods according to clams 6, 7 ~~and~~ or 8.

10. (Withdrawn) A therapeutic agent for an endometriosis-related disease comprising a molecule which inhibits the expression of an intracellular HRF polynucleotide.

11. (Withdrawn) A method for treating an endometriosis-related disease comprising administering a molecule which inhibits the expression of an intracellular HRF polynucleotide.